



PROTECTED B

BRIEFING NOTE TO THE MINISTER OF INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES

**APPROVAL OF THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES' EXTENSION TO THE
PROVINCIAL-TERRITORIAL BASE FUND**

(For Signature)

TIMELINE

Your decision is requested by March 31, 2020, in order to extend the Funding Agreement between Canada and Northwest Territories.

PURPOSE

To request that you sign the attached letter to the Honourable Paulie Chinna, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs (Annex A) to extend the Provincial-Territorial Base (PT Base) Fund in Northwest Territories by one year.

SUMMARY

- The PT Base Fund provides stable funding for Provinces and Territories through transfer payments that flow following the submission of Audited Annual Expenditure Reports.
- The current Funding Agreement with Northwest Territories expires on March 31, 2020.
- This extension will allow Northwest Territories to complete and submit their final Audited Annual Expenditure Report, which will trigger the final payment and closure of the program in the Northwest Territories.

CONTEXT AND KEY FACTS

- Infrastructure Canada is working to close out the PT Base Fund program in all Provinces and Territories by March 31, 2021.
- Including the Northwest Territories, there are four active jurisdictions (Alberta, Ontario, and Nunavut) under the PT Base Fund. All four active jurisdictions are now anticipating program closure by March 31, 2021.

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CONSIDERATIONS

- Approval of this extension will allow the Northwest Territories to submit their final Audited Annual Expenditure Report. Upon Infrastructure Canada's acceptance of the report, the final payment will flow to the Northwest Territories and the program will close out in the Territory.

RECOMMENDATION/NEXT STEP

- It is recommended that you indicate your approval of the PT Base Funding Agreement extension by signing the attached letter (Annex A) to the Honourable Paulie Chinna, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, so that the change may come into effect.

_____	_____
Kelly Gillis	Date
Deputy Minister	
Infrastructure and Communities	

___ I approve.	___ I do not approve.	___ For discussion.
_____	_____	
The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.	Date	
Minister of Infrastructure and Communities		

Attachment:

Annex A – Letter to the Honourable Paulie Chinna, Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs, Northwest Territories

The Honourable Paulie Chinna
Minister of Municipal and Community Affairs
Government of Northwest Territories
P.O. Box 1320
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2L9

Dear Minister:

I am writing to you regarding the Canada-Northwest Territories Provincial-Territorial Base Funding Agreement that will be expiring on March 31, 2020.

In order to allow the Northwest Territories sufficient time to finish its final audit of its Annual Capital Plans, while meeting Agreement terms and conditions, I am proposing to extend the Agreement by making the following amendment:

- Amend section 9.1 (Term) of the Agreement to read:
"Subject to section 11.2, this Agreement shall expire on March 31, 2021."

Please indicate your agreement in writing with this amendment, confirming the execution of this Amendment.

I am pleased that \$181,953,000 under the Provincial-Territorial Base Funding program has flowed to Northwest Territories to date, allowing for important investments in infrastructure across the Territory. I look forward to ongoing collaboration with the Northwest Territories to build communities that are livable, sustainable, and prosperous so that all Canadians have the chance to succeed, today and into the future.

Sincerely,

The Honourable Catherine McKenna, P.C., M.P.
Minister of Infrastructure and Communities